

Poems & Songs which Relate to Financial Literacy Themes

Title	Poet	Source
<p>"Dry Your Tears, Africa!"</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> "Dry your tears, Africa!/ Your children come back to you/ Out of the storm and squalls of fruitless journeys."</p>	Bernard Dadié	<i>Glencoe World Literature: An Anthology of Great Short Stories, Poetry, and Drama</i>
<p>"Mother to Son"</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> "Well son, I'll tell you:/ Like for me ain't been no crystal stair./ It's had tacks in it,/ And splinters,/ And boards torn up,/ And places with no carpet on the floor—"</p>	Langston Hughes	<i>Glencoe World Literature: An Anthology of Great Short Stories, Poetry, and Drama</i>
<p>"Not all the sum of earthly happiness"</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> "Not all the sum of earthly happiness/ Is worth the bowed head of a moment's pain/ And if I sell for wine my dervish dress,/ Worth more than what I sell is what I gain!"</p>	Hafiz	<i>Glencoe World Literature: An Anthology of Great Short Stories, Poetry, and Drama</i>
<p>"puce fairy book"</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> "you wanted Rapunzel waiting in a tower/ braids of hair like ropes/ stairs that only you could climb"</p>	Alice Major	<i>Echoes: Fiction, Media, and Non-Fiction</i>

<p>“Refugee Mother and Child”</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> “No Madonna and Child could touch/ that picture of a mother’s tenderness/ for a son she soon would have to forget.”</p>	<p>Chinua Achebe</p>	<p><i>Echoes: Fiction, Media, and Non-Fiction</i></p>
<p>“The Goblet”</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> “I have carried a goblet from one island/ To another and never waked its gift of water./ If I had spilled it, I would have betrayed a thirst;/ One drop lost, its boon destroyed;/ all lost, its owner would have wept.”</p>	<p>Gabriela Mistral</p>	<p><i>Echoes: Fiction, Media, and Non-Fiction</i></p>
<p>“The Rich Eat Three Full Meals”</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> “The rich eat three full meals, the poor two small bowls,/</p>	<p>Nguyen Binh Khiem</p>	<p><i>Glencoe World Literature: An Anthology of Great Short Stories, Poetry, and Drama</i></p>
<p>“The Virgins”</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> “Down the dead streets sun- stoned Frederiksted, the first free port to die for tourism, strolling at funeral pace, I am reminded/ of life not lost to the American dream;”</p>	<p>Derek Walcott</p>	<p><i>Echoes: Fiction, Media, and Non-Fiction</i></p>
<p>“There Was Once”</p> <p><u>Opening lines:</u> “—There was once a poor</p>	<p>Margaret Atwood</p>	<p><i>Echoes: Fiction, Media, and Non-Fiction</i></p>

girl, as beautiful as she was
good, who lived with her
wicked stepmother in a
house in the forest./

--Forest? *Forest* is passé, I
mean, I've had it with all this
wilderness stuff. It's not a
right image of our society,
today. Let's have some
urban for a change."

"Abandoned Farmhouse"
Opening lines:

Ted Kooser

Sure Signs: New and Selected Poems
(Zoland Books, 1980)

"He was a big man, says the
size of his shoes/
on a pile of broken dishes
by the house;/
a tall man too, says the
length of the bed/
in an upstairs room; and a
good, God-fearing man,"

"After working sixty hours
again for what reason"

Bob Hicok

Insomnia Diary (University of Pittsburgh
Press, 2004)

Opening lines:

"The best job I had was
moving a stone/
from one side of the road to
the other./
This required a permit which
required /
a bribe. The bribe took all
my salary."

"The Children of the Poor"

Gwendolyn
Brooks

"The Children of the Poor" from Annie
Allen (New York: Harper & Row, 1949).
Collected in Blacks (Chicago: Third
World Press, 1991).

Opening lines:

"People who have no
children can be hard:/
Attain a mail of ice and
insolence:/
Need not pause in the fire,

and in no sense/
Hesitate in the hurricane to
guard.”

“Poor People Land”

Vybz Kartel

<http://www.metrolyrics.com/poor-people-land-lyrics-vybz-kartel.html#ixzz1pVBqxdXu>

Opening lines

“ Mi caan believe it.
Government waan fi move
mi./

 Mi tun refugee inna mi
 owna country. But a long
 long time mi live yaso cant
 go no/ weh. Dem really tek
 poor people fi fool, dem
 really tek poor people fi
 fool./

 Cho Oui misa babylon a
 weh u get da system yah
 from?”

“Hard, Hard Times”

William
Emberley

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hard,_Hard_Times

Opening lines

“So now I'm intending to
sing you a song,/

About the poor people how
they get along./

They start in the spring and
they work till the fall,/

And when they clew up
they've nothing at all,”